Centres, Drop in Centres, Inter Sectoral Collaboration & mainstreaming of HIV preventive message within on-going programmes being implemented by other Ministries and departments.

AIDS Control Measures

1134. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India have 4.58 million HIV/AIDS patients as per data collected in respect of 43 districts of 15 States and a study has been conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation for UNICEF;

(b) whether according to UNICEF, biggest cause to control the disease is country's low literacy rate, old-age traditions of early marriages particularly in rural areas and unawareness about the mode of transmission which is as low as five per cent amongst women as compared to men; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to check spreading of HIV/AIDS in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) National Sample Survey Organization conducted a survey on the well-being of children and women in the rural areas of 43 districts in 14 different States during March to May, 2005 as part of Government of India and UNICEF Programme of Cooperation. The survey covered knowledge, attitude and practices related to HIV/AIDS but data to estimate prevalence levels was not collected.

(b) Awareness about modes of transmission and effective use of preventive measures are important for the control of the disease. Low literacy levels and early initiation of sexual practices play a role in increasing the risk of acquiring HIV infection. The survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organization among women aged 15-49 years and men aged 15-24 years showed that 93% males and 82.3% females were aware of at least one mode of transmission of HIV/AIDS.

(c) Government of India is implementing National AIDS Control Programme in the country as a 100% Centrally sponsored scheme. The

main activities include Targeted Interventions among high risk groups *i.e.* Commercial Sex Workers, Men having sex with men, Injecting Drug Users, Truckers Migrant Labour etc., IEC & Advocacy activities, Condom Promotion, Treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infection, referrals for Counseling & Testing facilities, provision of safe blood, Anti Retro Viral Treatment, Treatment for Opportunistic Infections, Community Care Centres, Drop in Centres, Inter Sectoral Collaboration & Mainstreaming activities etc.

Diabetic Research Centre in Orissa

1135. SHRI B.J. PANDA
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government has set up a Diabetic Research Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the help that is proposed to be rendered by the Central Government to develop it as a state-of-the-art Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shortage of Doctors in PHCs

1136. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether doctors posted at rural primary health centres are reluctant to report for duty and whether due to this, more than 40 per cent of the rural primary health centres are functioning without qualified doctors;